

Nevada

About ECCS

The purpose of ECCS is to build integrated systems of care for prenatal-to-three (P-3) populations that are accessible, sustainable, and comprehensive. ECCS promotes early development, health, and family well-being and aims to increase family-centered access to care and engagement.

Funded by HRSA, this 5-year initiative is comprised of twenty state awardees whose ECCS programs work with their state and local partners and family leaders to strengthen their early childhood systems to have a lasting impact beyond the life of the program.

Nevada's ECCS Program

Nevada's ECCS team is made up of 70 representatives from our state, local, and family partners. Together, we promote early childhood development, health, and family well-being by:

- ◆ Creating a coordinated early childhood leadership structure in Nevada.
- ◆ Coordinating and aligning systems of care for young children and families.
- ◆ Connecting families with the early childhood continuum of care and community.
- ◆ Identifying budget and finance strategies to drive policy that supports maternal and child health.
- ◆ Improving data collection and integrated systems to increase equity and accountability.

Nevada ECCS Initiatives

Creating Resources for Families:

The Nevada ECCS has developed a Systems-based, comprehensive resource for families with children aged 0-5 years: [First 5 Nevada Website and Eligibility Portal](#).

- ◆ First 5 Nevada will help ensure that all families in the state have access to the programs, resources, and support they need to help their children grow and thrive.
- ◆ The portal provides families with access to programs and funding to help give them the strong start they deserve.

Mapping Nevada's Funding Sources:

Through a collaboration with The Children's Funding Project, Nevada has developed the [Nevada Early Childhood Fiscal Map and Gap Analysis](#).

- ◆ This interactive, comprehensive fiscal mapping tool provides a detailed analysis of federal, state, and local funding sources for the early childhood system.
- ◆ The [final report](#) shows current investments and identifies funding gaps, providing critical data to inform strategic planning and advocacy for increased resources.



Elevating Family Voices:

We established the **First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council (F5N FLC)**. Recognizing the vital role of families, F5N FLC:

- ◆ Provides training, technical assistance, and mentoring to empower family leaders to engage in state-level leadership and decision-making within the early childhood system.
- ◆ Aims to ensure that family voices are central to policy and program development.

Building a Workforce of Early Childhood System Leaders:

In 2024, we established the first cohort of the First 5 Nevada Leadership Academy to build and strengthen future leaders. The Academy:

- ◆ Provides participants with an understanding of all early childhood sectors, including maternal and child health, early intervention, early childhood education, economic supports, health, safety, and more!
- ◆ Promotes approaches to solving statewide issues using a “Systems’ lens.
- ◆ Explores the importance of becoming an effective and collaborative leader within Nevada’s early childhood system.

Building on Our Successes

The Nevada ECCS team is focused on several goals that will help us continue to support the state’s MCH communities.

First Steps toward Implementing Coordinated Intake and Referral System (CIRS):

Having a CIRS in place will offer critical benefits to families with young children and to the health and social service providers who support them.

- ◆ A CIRS **streamlines families’ access to services, connecting parents and children to the right resources at the right time.**



From Crowded to Coordinated: **Examining the Governance of Nevada’s** **Early Childhood System**

This report, developed with the Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities, provides a practical tool for policymakers and ECCS stakeholders, guiding them in reimagining how Nevada cares for and prepares its youngest children. By providing a research-based vision and actionable recommendations, it aims to ensure efficient allocation of public resources and the establishment of a governance structure that truly serves families and children.

- ◆ It reduces the complexity of navigating multiple service systems, **helping families receive timely support** for health, early learning, and family services to improve well-being and outcomes for children.
- ◆ Our CIRS workgroup has completed an Executive Summary and has shared it with stakeholders.

A Coordinated Early Childhood Leadership Infrastructure:

Nevada has made substantial progress in establishing a more aligned and coordinated early childhood system.

- ◆ We are working to establish a Governor's Office of Early Childhood, to align policy and fiscal decision-making across relevant agencies for the prenatal to eight population.
- ◆ Our ongoing efforts include partnering with the non-partisan Guinn Center.

Increasing the reach and impact of families' experiences in the Early Childhood System:

Our established Family Leadership Council represents our commitment to ensuring that policies and priorities are shaped by the families that experience them.

Through purposeful outreach to families throughout Nevada, including rural families, tribal communities, and our Spanish speaking families, we will continue to work to maintain our momentum toward building a parent-centered early childhood system within Nevada.

How you can support Nevada's ECCS

There are many ways you can contribute to our efforts:

- Connect with us to partner on one of our priority initiatives
- Collaborate with us to implement projects that align with our ECCS goals
- Help us advocate for policies that support our ECCS goals

Connect with us:

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